

Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Barnes dies

Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Thomas N. Barnes died from cancer in Sherman, Texas, on March 17. He was 72.

Barnes was the fourth CMSAF and the first black selected to the highest enlisted post in any of the military services. He served in that position from 1973 to 1977.

Barnes was born in Chester, Pa., in 1930 and entered the Air Force in 1949. He attended aircraft engine and hydraulics specialist school at the Chanute Technical Training Center, Chanute Air Force Base, Ill. He served as a hydraulics specialist from 1950 to 1952 at McChord AFB, Wash. He supported the Korean War while serving at Ashiya and Tachikawa, Japan. Shortly after arriving in Japan, he completed on-the-job training as a flight engineer, and because of low manning, performed as both a flight engineer and hydraulics specialist.

From 1952 to 1965, the chief served in a variety of positions as a crew chief, flight engineer, and senior controller on various aircraft including the B-25 Mitchell bomber, T-11, C-45, C-47 Skytrain and B-52 Stratofortress.

In October 1966, Barnes entered F-4 Phantom field training and in December 1966 went to South-

east Asia, where he served with the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing until December 1967. From there he went to Laughlin AFB, Texas, where in 1969 he was promoted to chief master sergeant. In 1971, he was selected as the Air Training Command senior enlisted adviser, and in 1973, as the chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

During his tenure as CMSAF, the chief worked for equal opportunities for minorities, including blacks and women, and also worked to solidify the enlisted professional military education system.

After retirement, Barnes remained active in Air Force life and was a sought-after speaker at military functions. He competed in the rodeo sport of team roping and lived in Bonham, Texas, on a sprawling ranch he shared with his wife, Marie.

In an interview, Barnes was once asked how he would like to be remembered.

"I'd like to be remembered as a role model for people who believe they can't get there," he said. "It was an honor to have been chosen (as the CMSAF) on the basis of my qualifications, as opposed to my race or my gender." (Information for this article was taken from an interview by Master Sgt. Trish Freeland.)

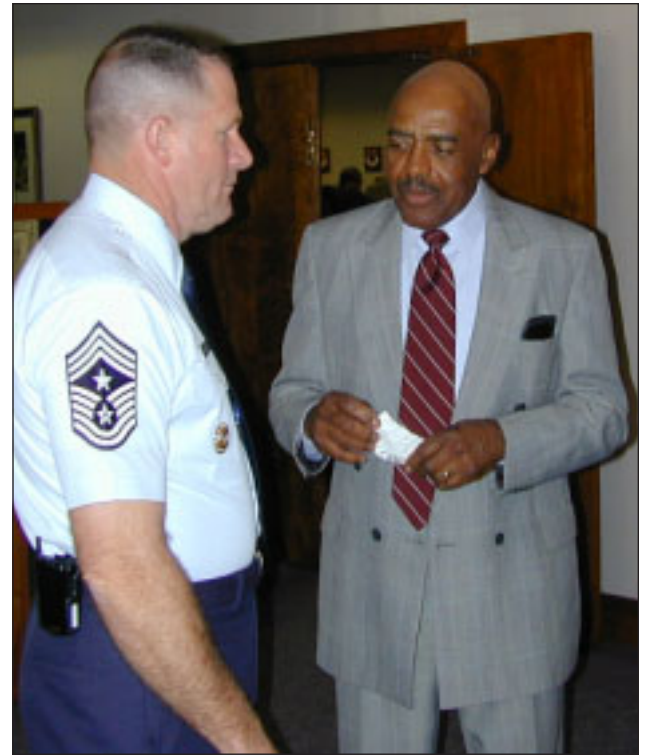


Photo by Master Sgt. Greg Holmes

Former Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Thomas Barnes (right) talks with Chief Master Sgt. Bill Milligan, then Air Education and Training Command's command chief master sergeant, during a conference at Randolph AFB, Texas, in February 2001. Barnes died from cancer in Sherman, Texas, on March 17. He was 72.

Deadline nears for new message system

Defense Messaging System is the official messaging system for DOD. This system is different from your regular e-mail account. You must have both a DMS account to send and receive official messages and a Fortezza Card (authorization to send and receive) which allows you to digitally encrypt and sign the messages. DMS is replacing the current AUTODIN system. As part of a DOD transition, the DMS Program Management Office has come out with a new upgrade (version 3.0 or Gold) for this system.

Thus, any organization, that needs to send or receive official messages within DOD, must have a DMS account. To get a DMS account and receive your Fortezza Card, you must complete a KAFB Form X509 (CAW 4.2.1 End User Request Forms Package) and submit it to the base COMSEC of-

fice located in Building 20604. This form is located on the Kirtland Internal Web Site, under Pubs/Forms and Kirtland/AFMC Forms (https://wwwmil.kirtland.af.mil/Pubs_Forms/forms.htm).

As described above, the DOD and Air Force are undergoing a major upgrade to DMS (Version 3.0). Kirtland AFB has been heavily involved in this upgrade and transition. We have established a Kirtland Web Site (<https://wwwmil.kirtland.af.mil/DMS/index.htm>) located on the Kirtland Internal Web Site, under Network News and Network Control Center links - DMS 3.0 Install Support, to assist you with this upgrade.

The following dates were established for DMS 3.0:

- Effective Jan. 31, all current DMS organizational accounts were to

be converted to DMS 3.0 and made operational

- Effective March 31, all remaining DMS accounts must be converted to DMS 3.0 and made operational

As you can see, we are fast approaching this final deadline. As part of a final push, we need you and your organization to verify if you need this capability and to work with the 377th Communication Division to get your current accounts converted. Also, DOD is terminating all AUTODIN Genser message capability effective March 31. Thus, you will not have the capability to send or receive unclassified official Genser messages. The 377th Communication Division stands ready to provide you with the necessary assistance by the base Network Control Center's Help Desk (*611) in getting your DMS accounts established

in your organization.

As a final note, unrelated to DMS 3.0 upgrade, DOD is asking organizations, that send/receive any Top Secret/Collateral message traffic by AUTODIN, to establish TS/C accounts on DMS as quickly as possible. A DOD web site is at <https://dmsweb.belvoir.army.mil/what/tsc.html> with information on how to obtain these TS/C accounts. These accounts allow DOD to terminate all remaining AUTODIN support effective Sep. 30. However, you must have access to a SIPRNet system to send and receive this type of message. Check with your Corporate Information Office representative, Workgroup Manager and/or Functional System administrator to see if you have this capability. Otherwise, you can call the 377th Communication Division at 846-1960 and ask for Alex Fajardo to verify if your organization has this capability.



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Photo courtesy of Chugach Management Services, JV

‘Painted rocks’ not new art form

Civil Engineers are gearing up for the summer growing season, applying a spray growth pre-emergent on the xeriscape on Kirtland AFB. The spray prevents seeds from noxious weeds and rogue grasses from germinating. The water-based spray has a dye added to ensure proper application and to prevent over-spraying. The pre-emergent used is one of the most environmentally friendly and effective on the market. This product is a selective herbicide that is used throughout the Albuquerque community. The sprayed areas do not represent any health hazards to base residents or pets.

April 15 tax filing deadline approaching

Those who have not yet filed their tax return for 2002 take heed. The filing deadline is just around the corner.

Kirtland’s VITA Tax Center is taking appointments for those still needing to file. The telephone number is 853-1700, and appointments may be made for times starting at 8 a.m. and ending at 4 p.m., Monday through Friday through April 11.

The Tax Center’s last day for doing tax preparation will be Tuesday, April 15.

No tax returns will be filed electronically by the Tax Center after April 11. Any tax returns prepared after then will need to be mailed sometime before midnight, April 15, to meet the IRS and most state deadlines.

If for some reason it is not possible to submit a complete and correct tax return to the IRS before the filing deadline, consider filing a request to the

IRS for an extension until August 15th.

This is done using Form 4868, and requires you to do as much of your tax return as possible in order to estimate your tax liability for the year. For those with any estimated tax liability, it also requires you to make a payment to cover the balance due.

By submitting Form 4868 and making a payment, you will avoid penalties and interest that result from filing after the deadline.

The Tax Center can file Form 4868 electronically as long as you know your Adjusted Gross Income for 2001.

If you do not have a copy of your 2001 return, Form 4868 can also be filed in paper form.

Please note that those deployed to a Combat Zone or Qualified Hazardous Duty Area are not required to file until at least 180 days after they leave the CZ or QHDA. The same is true for their spouses.

TEAM KIRTLAND members
selected for E-8, O-6

E-8

Nick Banda
550th Special Operations Squadron

William Cole
58th Maintenance Squadron

John Dooley
58th Maintenance Squadron

Bart Ellis
58th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Kevin Flaherty
Aero Systems Center

Eloy Gonzales
AFOTEC

Elijah Hussey
58th Training Squadron

Christopher Larsen
898th Munitions Squadron

Geneva McConnell
377th Medical Operations Squadron

David Mitchell
Air Force Space Command

Edgar Poe III
58th Operations Support Squadron

Christopher Seidl
AFOTEC (inbound)

Tamyra Vincent
58th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Ricky Woods
550th Special Operations Squadron

Cheryl Zahn
58th Maintenance Squadron

O-6

Gloria Twilley
377th Medical Group

Timothy Leahy
551st Special Operations Squadron

Richard Leibach
58th Operations Group

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